

TWO INSTITUTIONS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO STATE

MILLER, ONE OF NEVADA'S NEW TOWNS, HAS REDUCTION PLANT AND COMPLETE SAMPLING WORKS

REDUCTION PLANT

In plain view of Tonopah, fifteen miles distant, is situated the town of Miller, a place of growing importance where some very extensive and important work is going on in the interest of the mining industry of southern Nevada.

Little has been said about it, but a visitor will be surprised at the extent of the enterprise, for there have been few visitors and few observers, even from the trains that pass through daily. For the works are not visible from the railroad, although it passes close by, they being inclosed by a high board fence surrounding the grounds, which are some twenty acres in extent. Within the inclosure is situated the reduction plant of the Tonopah Mining Company.

Work was commenced in June, 1905. The purpose was to erect a modern, up-to-date plant for the reduction of the ores from the company's mines at Tonopah, thus avoiding the great expense of shipment to distant places for treatment. It is purely a private enterprise, but its success largely interests every mine owner in southern Nevada.

The power plant was first constructed and was completed in December, 1905. It has a capacity at present of 1500 horse-power. It has three 500-horse-power Cross compounding condensing engines, directly connected with three 250-K. W. Washington generators.

The engines are the latest McIntosh and Seymour type, and another has been ordered and is in course of construction and orders have been given for two more units of 500-K. W. capacity each.

In the fire room there are four Babcock and Wilcox boilers, with a capacity of 2,000 horse-power, equipped with a Green economizer of fuel. Oil is used for producing heat. The plant is capable of running all the works at Miller and besides transmit power to Tonopah for light and power at the company's mines.

The main building, which is now nearly enclosed, is of wood framework, covered with corrugated iron. The main portion is 530 feet long by 50 feet wide and 40 feet high in the clear, subdivided by low concrete walls into three compartments.

In the first and largest will be the batteries the concentrating tables, and the sand or cyanide tanks. This division is 53 feet long. In the next is the slime tank, which consists of a large excavation with sloping sides substantially walled with concrete, and adjoining it is a solution tank of similar construction and smaller size. Adjoining the slime tank is the zinc room.

On the east end of the building next to these tanks will be a complete machine shop with the most modern machinery and appliances.

Ore will be received at the three Gates rock breakers from the cars, which will reach them on an elevated track, where are now in place 100 1050-pound stamps.

The whole works have been planned by the ablest talent money could secure, and after repeated and continued experiments with the different methods for the treatment of the ores to be worked. Everything will work as nearly automatically as modern ingenuity can devise.

Probably the most important consideration in the selection of a site for such works was the supply of water. The company was fortunate in finding an abundance within 2,000 feet of the works. A well 67 feet deep was sunk, and in completing it it was desired to pump it dry so as to board up the bottom. For this purpose one No. 5 Knowles, one No. 7 Hammond and one No. 9 Hammond pumps were used continuously for forty-eight hours and failed to lower the water below the three-foot mark. It appears that an underground stream has been struck.

Work is nearly completed on a system that will enable the pumping of water from the well, a distance of some 5,000 feet, to the top of a little mountain about 100 feet high into an immense iron tank, from which a six-inch pipe line will conduct the water down to the works for fire and irrigation purposes.

Altogether the plant in extent, perfection of detail and elaborate expenditure in construction is something of which this district can feel proud. As

high as 250 men have been employed there a good part of the time, but at present there are only 150. The camp inside the enclosure is like a manufacturing town, with its numerous buildings, hotel, offices and officers' residences and lodging places for the men.

W. L. Moore, is the engineer in charge of the construction.

The work of construction is in charge of C. C. Moore & Co., contractors of San Francisco who are pushing it to completion as rapidly as is consistent with first class work, and it is expected that the job will be finished by September 1st.

Miller has another institution of no mean importance. Just across the railroad track is situated a four-story building with a basement some thirty feet deep, which constitutes the Western Ore Purchasing Company's works. It is a complete sampling works, and has a capacity of 500 tons per day.

This company, which has works also in Reno, is purchasing all the ore brought to it from surrounding camps—Tonopah, Goldfield, Manhattan, Bullfrog, etc.—and pays the same price that is obtained at any of the distant smelting towns, and cash paid for the same within twenty-four hours after it is sampled.

The works are run day and night and have proven entirely satisfactory to all who patronize it. Charles Snyder is the manager.

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A fight between two prisoners at the state prison almost resulted fatally for one of them. His head was half severed from his body by use of a piece of broken glass.

HATFIELD MAKES RAIN PLENTY

VICTORIA, B. C., July 5.—Rain maker Hatfield and the members of the Yukon council, who agreed to give him \$10,000 on condition that he should secure a downpour of rain for the washing-up of Klondike creeks have the laugh on the members of the opposition at Ottawa, who unmercifully scored Hatfield and ridiculed the contract made by the council.

News from Dawson is to the effect that there have been heavy rains since Hatfield began his experiments and the people attribute the downpours to Hatfield's work.

Phillip Mighels, a son of Mrs Sam P. Davis, arrived Wednesday morning from New York on a visit to his mother. He is well known in this city, was born here, and his many friends will be pleased to know that his literary success continues unabated.

The run at the Morgan mill netted bullion to the amount of \$2500 for the week ending July 2.

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